

A RESOLUTION**BY PUBLIC SAFETY AND LEGAL ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AMAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF UP TO \$6,000,000 FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, TO BE MATCHED WITH A MAXIMUM OF \$2,000,000, PROVIDED SUCH MATCH WILL BE PROVIDED BY OTHER BENEFITING AGENCIES PROPORTIONATE TO THEIR SHARE OF GRANT PROCEEDS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Justice has indicated that the Atlanta Police Department is eligible in FY2005 to be the lead agency for a multi-jurisdictional program to implement an interoperable communications system in the metropolitan region, and

WHEREAS, the events of September 11, 2001 clearly demonstrated the essential nature of interoperability to assure that police, fire and emergency medical responders from various responding agencies will be able to communicate directly with one another on a common radio frequency, and

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Police Department would act as the lead agency for this grant funded program and will benefit from the acquisition of essential communications equipments to upgrade existing systems

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Section one: That the Mayor is authorized to apply for and accept a grant in an amount up to \$6,000,000 for an interoperable communications program to enhance homeland security.

Section two: That matching funds up to \$2,000,000 may be required and the City will require other benefiting agencies in the region to contribute matching funds proportional to the federal funds allocated to their agency, such that the City of Atlanta's matching share does not exceed \$800,000.



CITY OF ATLANTA

Shirley Franklin
Mayor

675 Ponce De Leon Ave. NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30308
(404) 817-6900

Atlanta Police Department
Richard J. Pennington
Chief of Police

February 15, 2005


The Honorable Shirley Franklin, Mayor
City of Atlanta
55 Trinity Avenue
Atlanta, GA 30335

Dear Mayor Franklin:

Attached for your consideration is a RESOLUTION to authorize application for COPS funding for an Interoperable Communications grant program. This funding would be consistent with my program to prepare the Atlanta Police Department to respond to terrorist attacks or catastrophic disasters. This grant would complement our existing Urban Area Security Initiative grant and provide another element of the interoperability program. Interoperability is essential to effective coordination of emergency responders from several jurisdictions at the scene of an attack.

Please consider this proposed RESOLUTION and transmit it to City Council for their consideration.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Pennington
Chief of Police

Legislative White Paper

Committee of Purview: Public Safety and Legal Administration

Caption A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF UP TO \$6,000,000 FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, TO BE MATCHED WITH A MAXIMUM OF \$2,000,000, PROVIDED SUCH MATCH WILL BE PROVIDED BY OTHER BENEFITING AGENCIES PROPORTIONATE TO THEIR SHARE OF THE GRANT PROCEEDS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Council Meeting Date: March 21, 2005

Legislation Title: INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS GRANTS

Requesting Dept.: Police

Contract Type: Grant

Source Selection: Not applicable

Bids/Proposals Due: Not applicable

Invitations Issued: Not applicable

Number of Bids/ Not applicable

Proposals Received: Not applicable

Bidders/Proponents: Not applicable

Justification Statement: The events of September 11, 2001 underscored the urgency of giving emergency responders the capacity to communicate on a common radio frequency. Interoperable communications will allow Atlanta Police and Fire personnel to communicate on a common frequency with other metro agencies at the scene of an emergency that requires response from several jurisdictions. Such capacity will allow responding agencies to better coordinate their responses and share critical information instantly. For example, should another chemical spill occur, as recently happened in East Point, that impacts several jurisdictions, emergency personnel from all responding agencies would be able to talk on a common radio frequency.

Background: The Atlanta Police Department has once again been designated as the lead agency to apply for radio modifications and upgrades. Past applications have not been awarded due to technical issues raised by peer review panelists, such as radio

frequency availabilities, etc. Such technical concerns will be addressed in the 2005 application and the grantor representative in Washington is encouraging as to our prospects for funding.

Fund Account Center: To be assigned by the Department of Finance upon award of the grant.

Source of Funds: U.S. Department of Justice

Fiscal Impact: \$2,000,000 local match required, which will be prorated among recipients in the region.

Term of Contract: Two years

Method of Cost Recovery: Not applicable

Approvals:

DOF:

DOL:

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